AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Without prejudice, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 17 on page 19 of the disclosure to read as follows:

In this embodiment, the communication interface **70** includes an Ethernet interface chip having registers operable to provide values in accordance with a property of an Ethernet statistics group of an Ethernet remote monitoring protocol standard such as set forth in the Internet Engineering Task Force RFC #3144. In particular, the communication interface **70** includes at least one of an octets register **72** and a packets register **74** of an octet counter ~~73~~63 and a packet counter ~~75~~65. The communications interface **70** has an input **76** in communication with the output **66** of the passive monitoring device **60** to receive copies of the data units on the transmit data line **50** and keeps a count of these data units and determines from the data units the number of octets and the number of packets associated with such data units over a specified period of time which will be referred to herein as a sample time. In this embodiment, the communication interface **70** is set to count the number of octets and packets on the transmit data line **50** during successive 1/1024 second intervals and at the end of each interval, load the octets register **72** and the packets register **74** with associated count values. Thus, each 1/1024